

His Majesties
MOST GRACIOUS
SPEECH
To both Houses of
PARLIAMENT,

On Friday the Ninth Day of December, 1698.



L O N D O N,

Printed by *Charles Bill* and the Executrix of *Thomas Newcomb*, deceas'd; Printers to the Kings most Excellent Majesty. 1698.

His Majesty

Most Gracious

SPEECH

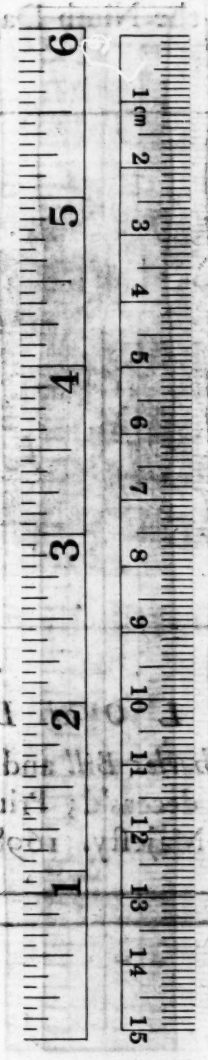
To both Houses of

PARLIAMENT

On the 10th of January 1892



Printed by the Government Printer, and the Executive of the
Newspaper, and the Executive of the Kings most
Excellent Majesty.



His Majesties
 MOST GRACIOUS
 SPEECH
 To both HOUSES of
 PARLIAMENT.

My Lords and Gentlemen,



Have no Doubt but you are Met together, with Hearts fully disposed to do what is Necessary for the Safety, Honour and Happiness of the Kingdom; and that is all I have to Ask of you.

In order to this, Two things seem Principally to Require your Consideration.

The One is, What Strength ought to be Maintain'd at Sea, and what Force kept up at Land for this Year; all I shall Observe to you upon this Head, is, That the Flourishing of Trade, The Supporting of Credit, and the Quiet of Peoples Minds at Home, will Depend upon the Opinion they have of their Security; and to Preserve to *England* the Weight and Influence it has at present on the Councils and Affairs Abroad, it will be Requisite, *Europe* should

should see, you will not be Wanting to your selves.

The Second thing I shall mention to you as of great Consequence, is the making some further Progress towards Discharging the Debts, which the Nation has Contracted by reason of the Long and Expensive War. In this the Publick Interest, as well as Justice is Concerned; and I think an *English* Parliament can never make such a Mistake, as not to hold Sacred all Parliamentary Engagements.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

I do Earnestly Recommend these things to you, that you may Provide such Supplies, as you shall Judge Necessary for these several Occasions.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I Think it would be Happy, if some effectual Expedient could be found for Employing the Poor, which might tend to the great Increase of Our Manufactures, as well as remove a heavy Burden from the People.

I hope also you will Employ your Thoughts about some good Bills for the Advancement of Trade, and for the further Discouraging of Vice and Prophaneness.

The things I have mentioned to you being of common Concern, I cannot but hope for Unanimity and Dispatch.

F I N I S.

